



United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
California Desert District
Palm Springs – South Coast Field Office

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
San Bernardino National Forest
San Jacinto Ranger District

***Draft Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National
Monument Management Plan
and Draft Environmental Impact Statement***

Riverside County, California
March 2003

A stylized signature of Mike Pool.

Mike Pool, State Director
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Draft Resource Management Plan for the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Location: Riverside County, California

Responsible Agencies: Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
California State Office

Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Region Five

Prepared by: Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office

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Forest Service
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Public Comment Period: Comments must be submitted within 90 days of the date when the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes a notice of the filing of the DEIS in the Federal Register. 90-day comment period end date identified on following website:

http://www.ca.blm.gov/palmsprings/santa_rosa_national_monument.html

Send comments:
via email to: ca_srsj_nm@ca.blm.gov
via fax to: 760-251-4899
via mail to address below:

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Abstract: This draft Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Management Plan, and draft EIS describes and analyzes a range of alternatives for managing the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument of southern California. This document is being prepared jointly by BLM and Forest Service in coordination with local, State and other Federal agencies, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians and other local Tribes, and private entities.



Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review is the Draft Resource Management Plan for the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The National Monument was created by the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000, Public Law 106-351. The legislation directed the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Interior to develop a management plan for the conservation and protection of the federal lands within the National Monument three years after the enactment of the law. The best management practices of consultation, communication, and cooperation, all in the service of conservation have been utilized through out the planning process.

This document describes and analyzes a range of alternatives for managing the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains of southern California. A preferred alternative is identified, and a description of the No-Action alternative (i.e. continuation of current management) is included. This Draft Plan/Draft EIS may also be accessed via internet at the web address listed above. This Management Plan is being prepared in collaboration with the local governments of the Coachella Valley and mountain communities, State and other Federal agencies, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, and private entities.

Comments received from the public shall be incorporated into the Final EIS, including names and addresses. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Please submit your comments in writing to the address listed in this letterhead, by the end of the 90-day public review period. The 90-day comment period ending date is published on http://www.ca.blm.gov/palmsprings/santa_rosa_national_monument.html. Comments may be sent by fax at (760) 251-4899 or electronic mail to ca_srsj_nm@ca.blm.gov. Your interest in community-based planning of the public lands within the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument is appreciated.

Sincerely,


Danella George
Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains
National Monument Manager

USER'S GUIDE

The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement includes a summary, five chapters, glossary, references, maps and appendices.

The **Summary** is a synopsis of the Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS/DEIS). Tables that briefly compare the respective alternatives and summarize the effects of the alternatives to the resources, processes and users are found within the summary.

Chapter 1 (Purpose and Need) contains introductory material for the Draft Resource Management Plan/DEIS. It describes the purpose and need for the preparation of the planning and scoping process and outlines the planning criteria.

Chapter 2 (Description of the Alternatives) is organized according to the values that the Monument was established to protect: Biological, Cultural, Recreational, Geological, Educational, Scientific, and Scenic. These sections are followed by additional management areas. Alternative D throughout is the No Action, or current management Alternative. Alternatives A, B and C describe various ways activities would be managed in the National Monument. Each alternative varies from more intensive to less intensive management, with the underlying premise to maintain, protect, restore or enhance relevant and important ecological and biological value.

Chapter 3 (Affected Environment) describes the current environment that would be affected or impacted by implementing any of the alternatives. It also describes the existing management for resource areas within the National Monument where no changes to current management are proposed. It includes a description of the environmental processes, resources and major uses related to the issues. Tables are found throughout the chapter.

Chapter 4 (Environmental Consequences) describes potential impacts and changes to the National Monument environment with the implementation of each of the alternatives.

Chapter 5 (Consultation and Coordination) includes a summarization of public involvement, lists agencies and organizations receiving the document, and provides a List of Preparers for the Draft Resource Management Plan/DEIS.

The **Glossary** and **References** provide an aid to the reader in understanding the material contained in this document.

The **Figures (Maps)** and **Appendices** contain additional information to aid the reader in understanding the document.

Draft Resource Management Plan for the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument/Draft Environmental Impact Statement

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

A

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ADC	Animal Damage Control
ADT	Average Daily Traffic
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978
AML	Appropriate Management Level
AMP	Allotment Management Plan
AQCR	Air Quality Control Regions
AQS	Air Quality Standard
ATV	All Terrain Vehicle
AUM	Animal Unit Month

B

BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practices
BO	Biological Opinion
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation

C

C&MUA	Classification and Multiple Use Act
CDCA	California Desert Conservation Area
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CDPA	California Desert Protection Act of 1994
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMP	Coordinated Management Plan
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Data Base
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CMP	Coordinated Resource Management and Planning
CVAG	Coachella Valley Association of Governments
CVMSHCP	Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan

D

DAG	Desert Access Guide
DBH	Diameter, breast high
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DLE	Desert Land Entry
DOD	Department of Defense
DOI	Department of the Interior
DRP	Draft Resource Plan
DTRP	Desert Tortoise Resource Plan June 1994
DWMA	Desert Wildlife Management Area

E

EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement

*Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Draft Resource Management Plan/DEIS
Acronyms and Abbreviations*

	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
	ESA	Endangered Species Act of 1973
F		
	FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
	FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
	FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
	FMAP	Fire Management Activity Plan
	FS	Forest Service
	FSH	Forest Service Handbook
	FSM	Forest Service Manual
G		
	GEM	Geology, Energy, Minerals (Survey)
	GIS	Geographic Information Systems
	GMP	General Management Plan
H		
	HAZMAT	Hazardous Material
	HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
	HMA	Habitat/Herd Management Area
	HMAP	Herd Management Area Plan
	HMP	Habitat Management Plan
I		
	IBLA	Interior Board of Land Appeals
J		
	JTNP	Joshua Tree National Park
L		
	LRMP	Land and Resource Management Plan
	LWCF	Land and Water Conservation Fund
M		
	MIS	Management Indicator Species
	MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
	MOG	Management Oversight Group
	MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
	MSA	Management Situation Analysis
	MSCP	Multiple Species Conservation Plan
	MUC	Multiple-Use Classification
N		
	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
	NCCP	Natural Community Conservation Plan
	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
	NFMA	National Forest Management Act
	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
	NNL	National Natural Landmark
	NOI	Notice of Intent
	NPB	Net Public Benefit
	NPS	National Park Service
	NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service

*Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Draft Resource Management Plan/DEIS
Acronyms and Abbreviations*

O	NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
	NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
	OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle
	ONA	Outstanding Natural Areas
P	ORV	Off-Road Vehicle
	PCT	Pacific Crest Trail
	PCTA	Pacific Crest Trail Association
	PFC	Proper Functioning Condition
R	PL	Public Law
	PM10	Particulate Matter of 10 Microns or Less in Size
	RAMP	Recreation Area Management Plan
	R&PP	Recreation and Public Purpose (Act)
S	RARE II	Roadless Area Review and Evaluation
	RIM	Recreation Information Management
	RNA	Research Natural Area
	ROD	Record of Decision
T	ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
	ROW	Right-of-Way
	RPA	Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act
	RU	Recovery Units
U	RVD	Recreation Visitor Day
	S&G	Standards and Guidelines
	SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
	SLC	State Lands Commission
V	SMARA	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1976
	SMS	Scenery Management System
	SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
	T&E	Threatened and Endangered (Species)
W	UPA	Unusual Plant Assemblages
	US	United States
	USC	United States Code
	USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
W	USDI	United States Department of the Interior
	USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
	USGS	United States Geologic Service
	VQO	Visual Quality Objective
W	VRM	Visual Resource Management
	WH&B	Wild Horses and Burros
	WHMA	Wildlife Habitat Management Area